

BELGIAN CONGO SPECIALISTS' STUDY CIRCLE

Bulletin No. 13

December, 1955

It is now more than twelve months since the last Bulletin was issued but there have been few contributions and an earlier issue has scarcely been justified.

REPORTS ON MEETINGS

Meetings of the Study Circle were held on December 11th, 1954, at Ashtead, on February 12th and April 30th at 12, Avenue Mansions, on June 25th at East Horsley and on October 1st at Ashtead. Attendance at the last two meetings were very small, there being only four and three members respectively. At each meeting those attending brought a number of sheets of general interest to the others; no formal display or single subject discussion was arranged.

On March 26th several members of the Study Circle had the pleasure of attending the Belgian Stamps Study Circle Annual Exhibition and Dinner. A frame of Congo cancellations was included in the Exhibition.

EXTRACTS FROM CONGO ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETINS

Mr. Heim has kindly sent a further series of extracts from the Congo Administrative Bulletin giving information on existing and new post offices in the Congo.

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| 6 December, 1954 | Kabambare, promoted to subsidiary P.O., District of Maniema, Province of Kivu, attached to the principal P.O. of Kasongo. |
| 4 January, 1955 | Jadotville, name change to Jadotville 1. Jadotville 2, opened as subsidiary P.O. responsible to Jadotville. |
| 25 January, 1955 | Bukava, name change to Bukavu 1. Bukavu 2, opened as subsidiary P.O. responsible to Bukavu 1. |
| 1 February, 1955 | Yangambi, name change to Yangambi 1. Yangambi 2, opened as subsidiary P.O. responsible to Yangambi 1. |
| | Elisabetha, new subsidiary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Orientale Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Basoko. |
| | Nangosira, new auxiliary P.O., District of Uele, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Paulis. |
| | Tapili, new auxiliary P.O., District of Uele, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Paulis. |
| | Panga, new auxiliary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principle P.O. of Stanleyville 1. |
| | Wanie-Rukula, new auxiliary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Stanleyville 1. |
| | Yanonge, new auxiliary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Yangambi 1. |

- Isangi, new subsidiary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Yangambi 1.
- Bili, new auxiliary P.O., District of Uele, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Buta.
- Kole, new auxiliary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Stanleyville, 1.
- Ligasa, new auxiliary P.O., District of Stanleyville Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Yangambi 1.
- Stanleyville 3, new subsidiary P.O., District of Stanleyville, Oriental Province, attached to the principal P.O. of Stanleyville 1.
- Pweto, new subsidiary P.O., District of Haut Katanga, Province of Katanga, attached to the principal P.O. of Elisabethville 1.
- 15 February, 1955 Nyunzu, new subsidiary P.O., District of Tanganika, Province of Katanga, attached to the principal P.O. of Albertville.
- 25 February, 1955 Lubefu, new subsidiary P.O., District of Sankuru, Province of Kasai, attached to the principal P.O. of Lusambo.
- 1 March, 1955 Bena-Dibele, new subsidiary P.O., District of Sankuru, Province of Kasai, attached to the principal P.O. of Lodja.
- 2 March, 1955 Mwanga, promoted to subsidiary P.O. attached to the principal P.O. of Bukavu 1.
- 1 April, 1955 Leopoldville 2, promoted to principal P.O.
- 7 April, 1955 Cattier, new subsidiary P.O. District of Bas-Congo, Province of Leopoldville, attached to the principal P.O. of Moerbeke.
- 6 April, 1955 Albertville, name changed to Albertville 1. Albertville 2, new subsidiary P.O., attached to Albertville 1.
- 12 April, 1955 Leopoldville G.G. (Gouvernement General) new subsidiary P.O., attached to principal P.O. of Leopoldville-Kalina.
- 1 May, 1955 Gandajika, new subsidiary P.O., District of Katinda, Province of Kasai, attached to the principal P.O. of Luputa.
- 5 May, 1955 Kimpengu, new auxiliary P.O. District of Bas-Congo, Province of Leopoldville, attached to the principal P.O. of Moerbeke.

15 May, 1955

Banga-Tschela, name changed to Tshela.

It will be noted by comparison with the list given in Bulletin No. 12 that no information is yet available for the period April-December, 1954. Mr. Heim hopes to obtain the information covering this period and this will be included in the next Bulletin.

LIST OF POST OFFICES IN THE BELGIAN CONGO
AND RUANDA URUNDI

M.P. de Cook of the General Government Offices in Leopoldville has kindly supplied the Secretary with a complete list of post offices in the Belgian Congo and in Ruanda and this is appended to the Bulletin.

EXTRACTS FROM PERIODICALS

The Strand Stamp Journal - Volume VI, No. 10.

Fault Finding - Arthur Blair

Some of the re-entries and odd guide lines of the Mols issues are described. The article is of popular and not of specialist interest.

Le Philatliste Belge - Nos. 75, 76, 77 & 78

Les Timbres du Congo Belge (continued) - Dr. H. Avidon.

The series of articles continues with the story of the stamps overprinted "Colis Postaux". It appears that many stamps with this overprint were sold both unused and used as remainders by the Colonial Agency in Brussels. Mention is made of the unframed overprint on the 50 centimes of 1886.

Dr. Avidon gives details of the 1894-1900 issues, much of which has, of course, been published before. The river boat on the 10 francs value is usually regarded as the "Deliverance"; according to Dr. Avidon this is only the type of boat and its name was "Ville de Hasselt".

Although he lists the major shades Dr. Avidon points out that a considerable variation is often found in a single sheet thus making very difficult the study of the various printings. Unfortunately, he does not give the sequence of the various shades.

On the subject of the 10 centimes blue with inverted centre he gives the story of Kennedy's purchase.

(Dr. Avidon's series of articles is full of useful information and the Secretary hopes to prepare a translation for inclusion in the Study Circle Library).

La Revue Postale, No. 5

Les Conquetes Belges dans l'Est Africain Allemand 1916-1917 - General Du Four.

This series of articles continues with descriptions of the war-time cancellations of Muanza, Kisumu, Malagarassi, Ussoke, the Kigoma-Tabora-Dar-as-salam Railway and the private cancellation of the Sultan Musinga.

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La Revue Postale No. 6

Congo Belge-Du Neuf dans l'Emission de 1915.

The 10 centimes stamps of the 1915 issue from the booklet sheets of 10 can be distinguished from the Type II centred stamps in the sheets of 50 by the coloured circle around the lower left "10". In the sheets of 50 this circle is broken at the bottom; in the sheets of 10 the circle is complete. Complete sheets of 50 with the Type II centre are rare without the Malines surcharge.

Le Revue Postale Nos. 7 & 8

La Poste au Congo - General Jean Du Four

General Du Four writes of the posts and cancellations that existed before the issue of the first adhesives. He has divided these into three sections; firstly the Portuguese post at Banana, secondly that of the Association Internationale Du Congo with its stampless covers and cancellations of Issanghila and Manyanga, the Homeward and Inland labels of Hertwig with their various cancellations and various straight line cancellations including "Congo Africa" and "Congo River" and thirdly those used by the Independent State of the Congo before the issue of the adhesive stamps.

La Revue Postale No. 10

Congo Belge - 1915 - 15 Centimes - R H Keach

Two types of G in the word "BELGE" are found on the 15 centimes value of the 1915 issue. It is suggested that after the first frameplate was prepared the Transfer Roll for the frame was damaged.

LIBRARY

Mr. Joseph Wright has kindly given the Study Circle many articles from old periodicals and these can form the basis of our library. A list of the articles is appended; they are available on loan to all members of the Study Circle on application to the Secretary. Mr. Turner is kindly binding Andre de Cock's Treatise on the postmarks of the Congo and this will be available when completed. General Du Four's series of articles on the Mols Issues is in need of binding. Is any member of the Study Circle able and willing to undertake this job?

Will any members who have any other journals to spare kindly pass them to the Study Circle for inclusion in the library. Alternatively, if members have not duplicate copies, if they will let the Secretary have a list of what they hold and are prepared to lend to other members, then a list can be prepared of the whereabouts of all the literature available within the Study Circle.

NEW ISSUES

27 December, 1954

Two large bicoloured stamps of values 4,50 francs and 6,50 francs were issued to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Institut Royal Colonial Belge. These are printed on photogravure and are perforated 13. They are to be withdrawn on 31 December, 1955.

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15 February, 1955

Four new values 1,50, 3, 4,50 and 6,50 francs were issued to celebrate the visit of King Baudouin to the Congo. Each value is duplicated, French and Flemish being given alternate precedence. The frames of the stamps are recess-printed in colour; the king's head is printed in photograture in black. A similar series in the same colours and designs was issued for Ruanda Urundi. It is perhaps fortunate that "Ruanda Urundi" is spelt the same in French and in Flemish! The stamps are perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ and are, in the writer's opinion, very attractive. It is a great pity that the French/Flemish duplication has started again.

26 July, 1955

An attractive $6\frac{1}{2}$ franc value was issued to commemorate the 5th International African Tourist Congress. Once again, unfortunately, the stamp is duplicated, one with inscriptions in French and the second with inscriptions in Flemish. Both stamps are printed in the same sheet with alternate horizontal rows in French and Flemish, the bottom row in the sheet being in French. The stamps are recess-printed, perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

Will any member who has information on the printers and sizes of sheets of these stamps kindly inform the Secretary for inclusion in the next Bulletin.

The St. Francis Xavier stamps, issued on 19 December, 1952, were withdrawn on 1 April, 1955.

COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARK

On 12 February, 1925, Capitaine-Aviateur Edmond Thieffry left Brussels on the first flight to Leopoldville. He carried two letters which were stamped and cancelled at Leopoldville on 4 April, 1925.

On 23 February, 1935, a regular air service from Brussels to Leopoldville was started by the airmen Coëquyt, Schoonbroott and Maubertuis with the Sabena aeroplane "Edmond Thieffry". They arrived safely at Leopoldville on 29 February. Much mail was carried. On 4 March the aeroplane left Leopoldville, arriving at Brussels on 8 March, again carrying much mail.

This year's special cancellation has been used commemorating both flights and a reproduction is shown below.



If members have information on the period during which the cancellation was used, or if it was used in towns other than Leopoldville, perhaps they will kindly let the Secretary know so that he can include the information in the next issue of the Bulletin.

MATADI-LEOPOLDVILLE T.P.O.

Mr. Heim has a normal circular cancellation on a current stamp with the inscription "Matadi-Leopoldville" presumably used on the Bas-Congo Railway. Further information on this cancellation will be welcomed.

QUERIES FROM MR. HEIM

Mr. Heim has a copy of the Unilingual 5 centimes value (1909) with the Type 3 Local "Congo Belge" overprint. He believes it to be genuine. Have other members information on the existence of such stamps?

He has a cancellation with "Aketi" between concentric circles rather similar to one of the old telegraphic cancellations but not octagonal.

He has also seen some of the modern flower stamps with what looks like a blue grille covering most of the stamp. The spacing of the lines of the grille is 14 per centimetre each way, Have other members any information on these cancellations?

1909 - INVERTED TYPOGRAPH OVERPRINT

Early catalogues of the typographed "Congo Belge" overprints listed all values with overprint inverted. It was subsequently shown that on all values except the 50 centimes the overprint was invariably forged. Nevertheless Stanley Gibbons persisted in including 5 centimes and 10 centimes values with inverted overprint, priced now at 80/-d each.

The Belgian point of view now appears to be changing as the Balasse Magazine No. 101 adds these two values to its catalogue. Are we to understand that the Balasse Catalogue is now following Gibbons and will soon be listing the 5 centimes of 1909 and the 25 centimes of 1910 perforated 13 $\frac{1}{2}$?

It is to be hoped that the copies of the two stamps with typographed overprint, as seen by Balasse, are not like the amazingly good fakes owned by Mr. Wright, with overprints all of the large type even in blocks and strips.

ADDITIONS TO BALASSE CATALOGUE

From Balasse Magazine No. 101

CP1N1	Deep lilac, black surcharge	12000 mint	13000 used
CP1N2	Lilac, black surcharge	11000 mint	12000 used
CP1N3	Lilac, blue surcharge		15000 used
7E1	Imperforate	5000	
9E1	Imperforate	5000	
29E1	10 francs vermilion	2500	
(this should presumably be 29E2 as there is already a 29E1)			
40C1	Overprint inverted	2000 mint	
41G1	Surcharge inverted	2000 mint	
43C2	Surcharge a Cheval	200 mint	150 used
77C1	Imperforate margin	2000 mint	2000 used

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Saturday, 20th January, 1956, at 12, Avenue Mansions.

BELGIAN CONGO SPECIALISTS' STUDY CIRCLE

List of Books and Articles Available in Library

Ref. No.

- 1 Adair T.S. - The Belgian Congo - Philatelic Congress of Gt. Britain, 1925.
- 2 Armstrong D.B. - Les Timbres du Congo Belge - Le Timbre-Poste, 1912-13.
- 3 Armstrong D.B. - ibid - translation into English.
- 4 Bamboula - Le Chronique du Congo Belge - Du Nouveau dans la "Serie de la Recuperation (1921)" - Balasse Magazine No. 14.
- 5 Claveréau H. - Les Obliterations du Congo Belge - La Philatelite Belge - February, 1928 - August, 1929.
- 6 de Cock Andre - Congo Belge et ses Marques Postales - Phil. Belge, 28 February, 1931 - 31 October, 1932.
- 7 Corbisier du Meaultsart E. - Congo Belge - Bal. Mag. No. 3.
- 8 Cowman A.R. - Belgian Congo; Forgeries - Phil. Mag., 8 August, 1925.
- 9 Cutress G.P. - Air Mail Notes and News - Stamp Lover, June, 1926.
- 10 Du Four Jean - Un Incompris; Le Congo Belge - Bal. Mag. No. 2.
- 11 Du Four Jean - L'Emission du General Tombeur - Bal. Mag. No. 14. (incomplete).
- 12 Du Four Jean - Essai sur les Emission aux Types Mols et Van Engelen 1894 - 95 - Bal. Mag. Nos. 8 - 13.
- 13 Gailly L. - Documentation (Numbers issued).
- 14 Gailly & Co. Le Negro Guide - 1925.
- 15 Gelli & Tani - The "Congo Belge" Overprints - S.G. Monthly Journal, July - August, 1912.
- 16 Gisquierre V. - Congo Belge (1922 - 23 Local Surcharges) - Phil. Belge, 15 June, 1923.
- 17 Grant B.S.H. - Belgian Congo and its Stamps - Stamp Lover, March to April, 1945.
- 18 Hayman H.L. - Notes of the Stamps of the Congo Free State and of the Belgian Congo - Monthly Report of the Herts. P.S., January, 1911.
- 19 Holdzkom R.F. - Inland and Homeward Issues of the Congo - Stamps, 13 December, 1941.

Ref No.

- 20 Lacureux Y. - Wartime Issues of Congo and Ruanda Urundi - Phil. Mag., 24 August, 1945.
- 21 Lefebvre G. - The Current Stamps of Belgian Congo - The South African Philatelist, February, 1940.
- 22 Maes A. - Des "Re-entry" du Congo - La Revue Postale - March, 1926 (first part only).
- 23 Magonette A. - Les Timbres de 5 francs des Emissions de 1894, à 1915 - Phil. Belge, 31 May, 1958.
- 24 Mallet-Veale H. - The Stamps of the Belgian Congo - The South African Philatelist, May 1927 - April 1928 (first five parts only).
- 25 Poncelet R. - (1886 Issue Sheets) - Phil. Belge, 15 May, 1925.
- 26 Poncelet R. - Non Dentelés des Emissions de 1886 et 1887 - 94 - Phil. Belge, 15 March, 1926.
- 27 Poncelet R. - Non Dentelés des Emissions de 1886 et 1887 - 94 - Phil. Belge, 30 April, 1928.
- 28 Poncelet R. - Ibid - Translation into English.
- 29 Porter R. - The Belgian Congo through its Pictorial Stamps - Phil. Mag., 12 November, 1937.
- 30 Raife R. - Stamps of the Belgian Congo - G.S.M., April, 1929.
- 31 Rang C.P. - Redrawn Dies in Waterlow Pictorials - G.S.M., October - November, 1933.
- 32 Renault F.P. - The Pictorial Stamps of Belgian Congo - S.G.M.J., September, 1925 to July, 1926.
- 33 Seranne F. - Faux de Genève - 5 et 10 Francs - Phil. Belge, 31 March, 1928.
- 34 De Smeth P. - 1894 - 1918 Double Frappes et Retouches - Phil. Belge, 30 November, 1929.
- 35 De Smeth P. - Double Strikes of Belgian Congo, 1894 - 1918 - Stamp Collecting Fortnightly, 12 July - 9 August, 1930.
- 36 Sydow A.H. - The "Albert Memorial" Stamps of the Belgian Congo - The South African Philatelist, November 1944.
- 37 Thomson G. Seymour - The Lado Enclave - Oriental Philatelic Magazine, October, 1938 - July, 1939.
- 38 Wright J. - Belgian Congo - Stamp Lover, December 1925 - March 1926.
- 39 Wright J. - (Letter on 1921 Surcharges) - Phil. Mag., 14 April, 1928.

Ref. No.

- 40 Wright J. - Belgian Congo - London Philatelist, July, 1941.
- 41 Wright J. - Stamps of the Allies - Belgian Congo - Stamp Collecting, 13 December, 1941.
- 42 Wright J. - 25 Centimes Waterfall Stamps - Stamp Lover, December, 1946 - February, 1947.
- 43 La Chronique du Congo Belge - Bal. Mag., No. 13.
- 44 Congo Belge. Une Decouverte Sensationnelle (1921 Surcharge on 1909 Issue) - Bal. Mag. No. 12.
- 45 (Odd pages dealing with Congo Special Flights) - La Gazette Philatelique, 1937 - 1939.
- 46 10 Francs Essay - Illustrated Philatelic Record, January, 1939.
- 47 Croix Rouge Congo - Ruanda - La Panorama Philatelique, No. 9.
- 48 Coins Retouches de Certaines Valeurs de 1894 - 1916 - Phil. Belge, November, 1933.
- 49 Faux Congo 1886 - 1894 - Phil. Belge, 15 April, 1926.
- 50 (Elisabethville Surcharge) - Phil. Belge, 15 September, 1923.
- 51 Sur les Taxes du Congo Belge Anterieurs a 1923 - Phil. Belge, 1925.
- 52 (Numbers Issued) - Philatelic Trader, October, 1927.
- 53 Les Faux Congo - La Revue Postale, February, 1926.
- 54 (5 Franc 1887 Imperforate) - La Revue Postale, April, 1927.
- 55 Timbres Faux (5 Franc 1886) - La Revue Postale, February, 1925.
- 56 Rare Imperforates as Souvenirs for Cash Donors to the Third Red Cross Stamp Appeal - Red Cross and St. John.

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BELGIAN CONGO & RUANDA URUNDI

LIST OF POST OFFICES, AUGUST 1955

PROVINCE OF LEOPOLDVILLE

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Banana	Moanda	--
Banningville	Mushie, Nioki, Oshwe	--
Boma	Lukula	--
Inkisi	Kasongo-Lunda, Madimba, Popokabaka	--
Inongo	Kiri, Kutu	--
Kikwit	Bulungu, Dibaya-Lubue, Feshi, Idiofa, Kahemba, Kenge, Masi-Manimba, Gungu	Mangai
Leopoldville I	Bolobo, Kwamouth, Leo III, Leo IV, Leo V, Kasangulu	--
Leopoldville II	--	--
Leo-Aerogare	--	--
Leo-Kalina	Leo G.G.	--
Matadi I	Matadi 2	--
Moerbeke	Lukala, Luozi, Cattier	Kimpangu
Thysville	--	--
Tshela	--	--

EQUATORIAL PROVINCE

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Basankusu	--	Bongandanga, Bolomba
Boende	Befale, Bokungu, Djolu, Ikela	--
Bumba	--	--
Coquilhatville	Bikoro, Gumba-Mobeka, Ingende, Irebu, Lukolela, Monkoto, Nouvelle-Anvers	Bokote
Libenge	Banzville, Gemena, Bomboma	Bosobolo
Lisala	Budjala, Businga	Busu-Djanao

EASTERN PROVINCE

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Aketi	Bondo	Likati, Mongo, Sambili, Ndu
Basoko	Yahuma, Elisabetha	Yahila
Bunia	---	Geti, Kasenyi
Buta	Ango, Bambili, Titule, Zobia	Dakwa, Bambesa, Bili
Irumu	Mambasa	---
Nizi	Djugu, Mahagi, Mongbwalu, Nioka	Djalasiga
Paulis	Dungu, Niangara, Peko	Amadi, Doruma, Rungu, Nangosira, Tapili
Stanleyville I	Bafwasende, Banalia, Lowa, Opala, Ponthierville, Stanleyville 2, Stanleyville 3	Yatolema, Bengamisa, Bomili, Kirundu, Panga, Wanie-Rukula, Kole(Stan.
Wamba	---	Babonde
Watsa	Aba, Aru, Gombari	Faradje
Yangambi I	Yangambi 2, Isangi	Yanonge, Ligasa

PROVINCE OF KIVU

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Bukavu I	Kabunga, Kalehe, Kamituga, Fizi, Uvira, Nya-Lukemba, Bukavu 2, Mwenga	Kabare ---
Butembo	Beni, Lubero	---
Goma	Kirótshe, Rutshuru, Masisi	---
Kalima	Shahunda	---
Kasongo	Kabambare	---
Kindu	Kibombo, Lokandu, Pangi	---
Yumbi	Lubutu, Punia	---

PROVINCE OF KASAI

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Kabinda	Tshofa	---
Lodja	Lomela, Katakò-Kombe, Bana-Debele	---
Luebo	---	---
Luluabourg	Bakwanga, Demba, Tshimbulu	---
Luputa	Gandajika	---
Lusambo	Lubefu	---
Mweka	---	Dekese
Mwene-Ditu	Luisa	---
Port Francqui	---	---
Tshikapa	---	---

PROVINCE OF KATANGA

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Albertville I	Baudouinville, Nyunsu, Albertville 2	--
Bukama	Luena	--
Dilolo	Sandoa, Kasaji	Kapanga, Kisenge
Elisabethville I	Elisabethville 2, Elisabethville 3, Kasonga, Kipushi, Mitwaba, Sakania, Pweto	--
Jadotville I	Lubudi, Tenke, Jadotville 2	--
Kabalo	Ankoro, Malemba-Nkulu	--
Kamina	Kaniama	Kabongo
Kamina B.M. I	Kamina B.M. 2	--
Kolwezi	--	Mutshatsha
Kongolo	--	--
Manono	--	--
Shinkolobwe	--	--

RUANDA-URUNDI

Principal Post Offices	Sub-Post Offices	Auxiliary Post Offices
Astrida	Nyanza, Shangugu	--
Kigali	Biumba, Kibungu	--
Kitega	Muhinga, Rutana, Bururi, N'Gozi	--
Kisenyi	Ruhengeri	--
Usumbura	Muramvya	--